

ST. GEORGE *Chronicle*

The Very Rev. Christopher Morris
Pastor

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ST GEORGE ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH
KEARNEY, NEBRASKA

IN THIS ISSUE

- PAGE 1**
ICONOGRAPHY PROJECT
Prophet Joel
- PAGE 2**
IS CREATION GOOD?
continued, part 3 - MTD
- PAGE 3**
6 REASONS WHY TITHING IS GOOD
continued, part 3
- PAGE 4**
BIRTHDAYS
ANNIVERSARIES
DONATIONS
LETTERS
- PAGE 5**
MINISTRY UPDATES
- PAGE 6**
KNOW YOUR CHURCH HISTORY
Trivia Question #2
- PAGE 7**
CREATIVE ARTS FESTIVAL
- PAGE 8**
ST. GEORGE SCRAPBOOK
- PAGE 9**
ST. GEORGE BULLETIN BOARD
Announcements
- SAVE THE DATES**
- DECEMBER 6**
St. Nicholas Day
(games and activities for children
to follow eve church service)
- DECEMBER 17**
Soup Luncheon & Talent Show
- JANUARY 6**
Theophany of Christ
- JANUARY 28**
Tridion Begins

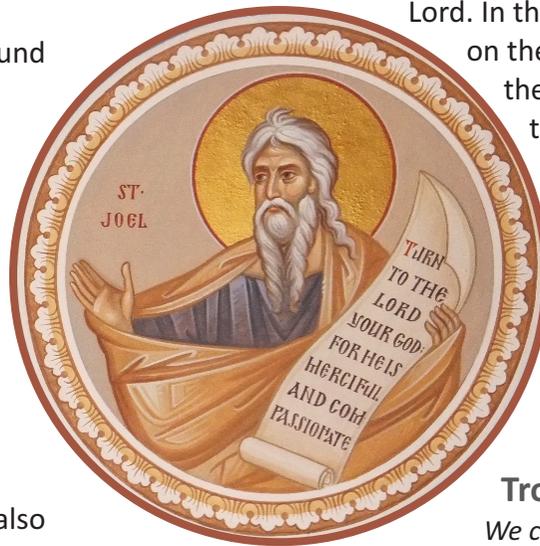
Our Beloved Icons

Our next icon to be featured is that of **Holy Prophet Joel**, c. 800 B.C., whose feast day is celebrated on October 19.

Joel lived around the time of the Prophet Isaiah, He called the people to penitence and reminded them of God's faithfulness and justice. He predicted the desolation of Jerusalem. He also prophesied that the Holy Spirit would be poured out upon all people, through the Savior of the world, (fulfilled

on the day of Pentecost.)

The hymnographer Anatolius links Joel's prophecy to the Nativity of the Lord. In the Praises at Matins on the Sunday following the Nativity, he refers to Joel 2:30, saying that the blood refers to the Incarnation, the fire to the Divinity, and the pillars of smoke to the Holy Spirit.



Sponsorship of the **Prophet Joel** icon at St. George Kearney, was offered by the Hadley family

Troparion

We celebrate the memory of Your prophet Joel, O Lord; Through him we beseech You: save our souls.

source: www.oca.org



12 Ways to Celebrate the 12 Days of Christmas

"Welcome to that bit between Christmas and New Years when you don't know what day it is, who you are, or what you're supposed to be doing." This humorous saying from the internet frequently catches my eye. As a teacher, I find this to be pretty true sometimes. Sometimes I forget how to move throughout my day-to-day life when there's not a bell ringing every 44 minutes signaling my next move! Thankfully, I've realized that if you start to pay attention to the feasts and traditions of the Church, there are plenty of solutions for this seemingly unstructured time of year.

(continued on page 2)

(continued from page 1)

Did you know that the Twelve Days of Christmas refer to the festive period linking together the Nativity of Christ and Theophany? Yep, that means, contrary to popular American belief, Christmas doesn't have to be boxed away on Dec. 26th!

So, what exactly is there to do during the Twelve Days of Christmas? When the presents have been opened and tossed aside, the family meal is finished, the post-meal naps are over, and the cabin-fever sets in? Well, as Orthodox Christians, we do what we do best: celebrate! Welcome to the Twelve Days of Christmas! When the culture around us is putting Christmas back in the box after a month of feasting, we begin celebrating the Feast!

Twelve Ways to Celebrate the Twelve Days of Christmas:

1. Attend Nativity Services:

What's the point of fasting for 40 days, decorating the house, putting up the lights, and singing Christmas carols if we don't make it a priority to participate in the joyous feast of the Nativity? The feast of Christmas is known as "the celebration of the world's salvation through the Son of God who became man for our sake that, through him, we might ourselves become divine, sons of God the Father by the indwelling of his Holy Spirit in us." Let's fill the church with our families!

2. Use the Nativity Greeting: "Christ is Born! Glorify Him!" Celebrate the feast by greeting friends and family with the Nativity greeting each day from Dec. 25 to Jan 6.

3. Leave the tree up: It's tradition to leave the Christmas tree up until January 6 (Theophany).

4. New Year's Services: Celebrate the New Year and honor St. Basil by coming to services and enjoying Vasilopita, a bread filled with a sweet surprise.

5. Host a Nativity party: Since the 40

days of fasting are over, enjoy the fast-free period that lasts from Nativity until Theophany! Go ahead and enjoy a hummus-free and dairy-filled Nativity feast.

6. Make Spiritual Resolutions: In addition to the traditional New Year's Resolutions, try adding in a few spiritual resolutions. Need ideas? Learn about a new saint, add an additional prayer to your prayer rule, make confession a priority, invite a friend to church, revisit your tithe amount, attend more weekday services, etc.

7. Give Thanks: This time period is a wonderful time to reflect upon our blessings, and offer gratitude back to God for all He given us. Did you celebrate Christmas in a warm house, with family, friends, and more than enough food and presents? Glory to God!

8. Participating in Almsgiving: It's easy to get caught up in the spirit of materialism during the holidays. But toys and new gadgets only give us a temporary feeling of satisfaction. The joy of sacrificial giving is long-lasting!

Donate some household items, prepare a meal for the homeless, donate to a monastery or charity, find ways for your family to give to those in need, etc.

9. Choose a theme for celebrating the 12 days: Research 12 new saints, write 12 thank-you notes, go to coffee with 12 friends, memorize 12 bible verses, donate 12 items to a local charity, etc. Try a new theme every year!

10. Keep Singing: "The best way to spread Christmas cheer is singing loud for all to hear!" Christmas carols are a fun and joyful way to celebrate the Nativity. Go caroling or sing at home with family...yes, even into January!

(continued on page 6)



Is Creation Good? PART 3

by the Very Rev. Fr. Christopher Morris

Is creation good? Is God Himself good? In the past few months, we have reflected on these questions in light of human tragedy and especially natural catastrophe. How can the world really be good when so many bad things happen? So far, we have looked at Atheism and Gnosticism as common, though misguided, answers to these important questions.

This month, we will look at a third answer. Known as "Moralistic Therapeutic Deism" (quite a mouthful!), it is very prevalent amongst younger generations who profess faith in God.

Moralistic Therapeutic Deism

Moralistic Therapeutic Deism is a term coined by two sociologists who conducted a large study of the religious life of American teenagers in 2005. Known as MTD for short, it is closely connected to Gnosticism, but deserves its own explanation because of its prevalence among the "millennial" generation. Like Gnosticism, MTD is not an organized religion, but rather a religious disposition.

The major tenets of Moralistic Therapeutic Deism can be summarized as follows: 1) The world was created and is ordered by a creator who watches over us. 2) This creator desires us to be good, act with fairness, and be nice to one another, in accordance with what is believed to be the common teaching of the major world religions. 3) Personal happiness and self-esteem are the most important goals in life, and, 4) though always present to help us through difficulties, the creator does not otherwise seek to be particularly involved in an individual's life. 5) Finally, "good people" go to heaven when they die.

MTD is said to be Moralistic because it instills in its adherents a moral disposition—one must be a "good" person to lead a happy life. MTD is described as Therapeutic because its benefits are primarily to provide a sense of self-worth and security to its adherents rather than inspiring or requiring any particular devotion, discipline of prayer, conviction of sin, affirmation of dogma, acquisition of

(continued on page 7)

6 Reasons Why Tithing is Good for an Orthodox Parish (part 3)

by the Very Rev. Fr. Andrew Stephen Damick

In October we learned that *"Tithing enables us to be saved."* In November's article, we learned that *"Tithing shows that we're serious."*

This month we are sharing part three of Fr. Andrew Stephen Damick's article "6 Reasons Why Tithing Is Good for an Orthodox Parish."

3. Tithing is absolutely Orthodox.

Some people say that tithing is not Orthodox. This is nonsense. Giving is Orthodox. Asceticism is Orthodox. Generosity is Orthodox. Ministry is Orthodox. Discipline is Orthodox. The purpose in tithing is not because it is an "absolute requirement" in order to be saved. It's not. But how can we be saved if we do not nurture a truly generous heart? And how can we nurture that generous heart without becoming disciplined about giving all that we have? The Orthodox Church understands how to become disciplined. We understand asceticism. This is one of the best ways to do it. Tithing was a minimum set up in the Old Covenant (and there were multiple tithes, equaling about 23%). 100% is the standard in the New Covenant (Acts 4), and when the Fathers talk about tithing, they say that because the New is superior to the Old, we give more than the Old Covenant people did. So perhaps it's true that "tithing is not Orthodox." But that's not because we give less than 10%, but because we give more than 10%.

God is merciful, of course, and if we're not ready to meet that standard, we can work toward it. But are we working toward it? If not, let's get on it.



Stay tuned...January's Chronicle will feature Part Four of this article.



MIDWEST
ORTHODOX
WOMEN'S RETREAT 2017



Cleaning the Icon of Christ

In November, I was blessed to have the opportunity to attend the Midwest Orthodox Women's Retreat in Council Grove, Kansas. This retreat is hosted every fall by the St. George Cathedral in Wichita, and is open to any woman interested in growing in her faith and making new friends along the way!

Half the fun of this retreat is always the car ride there and back. I joined Kim Rehtus, Amy Hadley, and Amber Hartley for the four and a half hour (that's just one way!) car ride. We enjoyed the beautiful scenery of Kansas, including dirt roads and gorgeous sunset, and of course priceless conversation. We arrived in Council Grove just in time for dinner, and a hug from Linda Maloley and other old and new faces. Fr. David Fontes was the retreat speaker, and he joined us from California. Fr. David is both an Orthodox priest and a clinical psychologist. He spoke on the topic of "knowing our true value in Christ."

Fr. David reminded us that our value comes from one place- God. Our value does not come from what other people think about us, how much "self-esteem" we have, or how many material possessions we own. Knowing that our Creator loves and values us gives us a sense of personal

value, which in turn prevents us being triggered by others. We are precious in the sight of God, and He sees us beyond our false self, which we muddy with sin when we devalue ourselves and others by our sins. Fr. David reminded us that we are icons of Christ, and we need to clean away the mud of sin through confession and share in the image and likeness of God, so others may see His light and grace shining through us like a stained glass window. Through prayer, almsgiving, fasting, repentance, and confession we can begin to see our true value. Fr. David said that by valuing our spouses, children, His Church, and the world around us, we show God how much we love Him and desire to be in communion with Him. He gave wonderful tips on how to begin to value those around us.

Fr. David wrote a book titled *"In the Eyes of Your Creator"* and we highly recommend it. This retreat was a wonderful way to begin the Nativity Fast. I hope and pray that others will be able to join us next November. Each retreat is always refreshing and informative. If you would like to hear more about Fr. David's talk or the retreat itself, please don't hesitate to ask!



WE GET LETTERS ...

I pray that this finds all the St. George parish family well. I'm enclosing a check for the St. Nicholas festivities in honor of Juliana Morris and her participation in the creative writing competition. God grant her many years. Please give my love to all. Hopefully I'll start feeling better so I can make a trip to Nebraska in the coming months. I so want to see Uncle Nick and all my family and friends.
Much love in the Risen Christ,
Judy Yacio

Thank you so much for the St George Chronicle every month. It helps keep us informed about events, the articles are uplifting, and the photos capture so many happy moments.
Dione Steinbrink

Dear Denny family,
Thank you for hosting the junior youth group at your house in November. We had a lot of fun playing board games and we enjoyed the yummy treats. Thanks for your generosity and hospitality!
Love,
St. George Junior Youth Group

Dear members of the 20/40 Fellowship,
Thank you for the very thoughtful and generous donation to Holy Archangel Michael monastery for my birthday!
Fr. Christopher

Dear Ladies Society,
Thank you so much for paying our registration fee so we could attend the Midwest Orthodox Women's Retreat in November. The retreat was held in Council Grove, KS, November 10 and 11th. We feel so blessed that we were able to learn more about our faith and learn about how to love and value God, our families, friends, and the world. Thank you again for this opportunity!

In Christ,
Amy Hadley, Amber Hartley, Kim Rehtus, and Sarah Fothergill

Our Sincere Sympathy TO THE FAMILIES OF:

John S. LiaKos, 90, father to Michael & Darlene LiaKos, half-brother to Theo Wolf and Georgia Bakas, who fell asleep in the Lord on Tuesday, November 14, 2017.



**MAY HIS
MEMORY BE
ETERNAL**



Let us hear from you.
We welcome
your comments, ideas,
photos and any info
you would like to share
with your
St. George family!

stgeorgechronicle@yahoo.com

Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

Birthdays

December 14
Chris Browne

December 20
Matthew Brailita

December 23
Gerald Rehtus

HAPPY Anniversary

December 17
Tim & Tracey Shada

**GOD GRANT YOU
MANY YEARS**

Donations *Gratefully Received*

Donations received at St. George Fall Breakfast, to **St. George Building Fund**, by anonymous donors

Donation to the **Chronicle Newsletter** from anonymous donor

Donation to **St. George Orthodox Church** from Franca and Lewis Fullmer.

Donation to **St. George Orthodox Church** from Judy Yacio.

Donation to **St. George Orthodox Church, Building Fund** from anonymous donor.

In Memory of

Donations to **St. George Orthodox Church** in memory of Millie (Yanney) Shada from: Nizar and Michele Wehbi, Robert and Linda Barrett, Jenny Bergt, Sally Ganem, Julie Yanney, Paul and Lori Maloley, Dorothy Heidorn, John and Wendy Yanney, Tim and Tracey Shada, Tim and Cindy Burns, and Joe and Linda Maloley.

Donations to **St. George Orthodox Church** in memory of John LiaKos from Josie and Greg Awtry, and Wanda Maloley.

May God bless you all for your generosity!

MINISTRY UPDATES



Many thanks to the volunteers that baked for the **Fall Bake Sale**. We had a good variety of treats for our buyers, and as usual the Flatbread, Baklava and Pies were the first items to go. A thank you to the ladies who came Friday to help set-up, price goods, and to the volunteers that made sure we had boxes for our buyers shop with. Saturday morning went well as we had several helpful volunteers. Thank you!

BIG thanks to Kim Rehtus for volunteering to chair our **Annual Baklava Gift-Giving** event again this year. Sign-up sheets are posted in the Parish Hall. Please plan now to help make, bake and package up our Baklava orders. The more volunteers we have, the easier the task. Thank you!



The **St. George Church Christmas Tree**, decorated by our Sunday School children, will be on display at the **Kearney Trails and Rails Museum** the first two weekends of December. You may visit the Christmas Tree Walk from 1 to 5 PM on Saturday-Sunday, 12/2-12/3, and Saturday-Sunday, 12/9-12/10.

It was brought to our attention that the Trails & Rails Museum changed their voting regulations. "Visitors to the Museum can help one of the non-profits to win a big Eileen's Cookie by voting on their favorite tree. Tickets cost a quarter each, or five for \$1, at the Family History Center. These tickets can be placed in the container at each of the trees. Votes will be tallied after the final Christmas Tree Walk on Dec. 10."

We apologize for the confusion. Canned goods can still be dropped off at the Museum, and will be donated to the *Buffalo County Historical Society food bank*. However, the canned goods will not be part of the voting as originally had been stated.



The 20/40 Fellowship met at Chris and Katrina Browne's home on November 19. We enjoyed a lenten potluck and fellowship. We prayed a prayer supplication service together and heard from Kim, Sarah, and Amy about their experience at the **Midwest Orthodox Women's Retreat** in Kansas earlier in the month. It was wonderful to pray together with our spiritual family for all of our loved ones, both living and departed.

We also voted for a charity in which to donate the proceeds from the pancake breakfast. Thanks to everyone who came for a beautiful evening of fellowship.

The 20/40 Group would like to challenge the rest of the parish with another "canned food drive" to see who can collect the most pounds of food! This competition is being called "**The Twelve Days of Christmas Challenge!**". Shopping carts for collections, will be placed in the parish hall. The challenge will run from **December 25th through January 6th!** Plan now to collect your canned goods and make this challenge a fun, family event as you celebrate the "*Twelve days of Christmas*". Way to go St. George!!



ST. GEORGE TEEN YOUTH GROUP

In November we met twice at the St. Raphael house for dinner and fellowship time. All teens are welcome to join us. Invite a friend, and come share the fun!



Junior Youth Group *at St. George*

The junior youth group met last month to decorate the Christmas tree at Trails and Rails Museum. Also, on November 15 we met for board games and fellowship. Thank you to the Dennys for hosting such a fun evening. We plan to meet for an almsgiving activity in December, so stay tuned for more details!

MEN'S STUDY GROUP

The *St. George Men's Study Group* meets each Saturday morning, at 8:30 am, at the St.



Raphael House. We have completed our first video lecture series entitled LIONHEART. If you missed a session and would like to watch it, please contact Fr. Christopher or Gerald Rehtus and they will be happy to help you.

Women's BOOK STUDY

Book Study is back to its fall schedule. We meet every other week, on Mondays, at 4:15 pm to 5:15 pm. Our December dates will be the 4th and the 18th.

SAVE THIS IMPORTANT DATE

You won't want to miss this event! Plan now for **Next Year, October 26-28th, 2018**. Our parish will be hosting an event to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Father Nicola Yanney's repose. It promises to be an exciting gathering. **Bishop Basil** will be joining us, together with American Orthodox historian **Matthew Namee** and popular author and blogger **Father Andrew Stephen Damick**, along with many pilgrims from throughout the diocese and beyond. More details will be forthcoming.



Litia & ARTOKLASIA by Joanie Klein

WOW! Our Orthodox faith is so "rich" with a variety of beautiful church services; and this evening, I was blessed to attend a prayer vigil in honor of St. Raphael's feast day.



As usual, when I enter the nave of St. George for an evening service, the candle light takes

my breath away. As I venerated our Holy icons, my attention was quickly drawn to the front of the church. I knew in an instant, tonight was not going to be an ordinary Vespers service or vigil. The icon stand was empty. Five little loaves of bread had been carefully placed on a beautiful gold stand, with three petite candles, just waiting to be lit.

The service began, the chanters immediately ushered my heart "into that place" where I don't want to leave. Such calm. Such peace. No worries. Life, at least on earth, just doesn't get any better than this!

I learned from Fr. Christopher that the prayers we offered were part of a "Litia". The bread is considered part of the "Artoklasia" (in Greek, actually means "breaking of the bread" and is reminiscent of the five loaves that Jesus Christ blessed in the desert to feed the five-thousand.)

As part of our vigil, Vespers would end and Orthros would immediately follow. To my surprise, Father was escorted by a candle-bearer and sub-deacon Michael with the censer. With the icon of Saint Raphael held high, they processed the table three times, placed the icon into the icon stand, and lit the candles. The chanters offered hymns as Father blessed the bread; it was carefully divided and dipped in wine. The faithful were then invited to come forward to venerate the holy icon of St. Raphael. For those who were not able to stay for Liturgy, would partake of the grace of this feast by receiving the blessed bread. Father quietly recited "through the prayers of St. Raphael and our Holy Saints" and anointed each of us with Holy oil. Our vigil seamlessly flowed into Orthros and then into our final worship with Liturgy. What an incredible evening and blessing!

We have since then offered this beautiful service two more times. First, in honor of St. Nektarios' feast day of which we were anointed with holy chrism from his monastery in Greece! And again, for the Presentation of the Theotokos. On this evening we were anointed with holy oil from Christ's Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem.

I would invite my church family to attend one of these services and if you are not able to stay for the liturgy, **please come for Vespers**. What a blessing to partake of the feast by experiencing the Litia prayer service, receiving the Artoklasia and to be anointed with Holy oil. May it be blessed.

(continued from page 2 - Twelve days of Christmas)

11. **Pay it Forward:** If you were given presents, a warm meal, or another gift that made you feel loved and valued, pay it forward to someone else. Try an anonymous random act of kindness! Pay for a stranger's drink, leave money at the laundromat, give a gift card to someone in the grocery store check-out line, etc.



Spread some kindness and cheer to those around you!

12. **Celebrate Theophany:** The Feast of Theophany on January 6th is the culmination of the Twelve Days of Christmas. This Great Feast commemorates Christ's baptism by John the Forerunner in the River Jordan, and the beginning of Christ's earthly ministry. The Great Blessing of Water is performed on this day, and the holy water is blessed and is used to bless the homes of the faithful.



The Feast of Theophany
on January 6th

KNOW YOUR CHURCH HISTORY

TRIVIA QUESTION

Q: During the course of his priestly ministry, Father Nicola performed approximately how many baptisms?

- A. 125
- B. 576
- C. 910
- D. 1,755

See page 10 to check your answer

CREATIVE ARTS FESTIVAL WINNER 2017



Bronze Ribbon
Winner

“Many People, One God”

Praying the same prayers,
They're all the same religion,
Making the same cross.

All cultures and types,
They're all the same religion,
Walking toward the church.

They're all Orthodox,
They're all the same religion,
Worshipping our God.

by Grace Maloley, 7th grade

Happy Feast Day St. Porphyrios!

“Our religion is perfectly and profoundly conceived. What is simple is also what is most precious. Accordingly, in your spiritual life engage in your daily contest simply, easily, and without force. The soul is sanctified and purified through the study of the Fathers, through the memorization of the psalms and of portions of Scripture, through the singing of hymns and through the repetition of the Jesus Prayer. Devote your efforts, therefore, to these spiritual things and ignore all the other things.”

— Saint Porphyrios, *Wounded by Love*

Feast Day - December 2

Please send your comments,
photographs,
any additions
or corrections
to the editor at:

stgeorgechronicle@yahoo.com

Thank you



(continued from page 2)

virtue, or development of character. Although those who ascribe to an MTD worldview describe a creator who is personally aware of them, it is ultimately much more akin to Deism than theism. Beyond solving problems and providing a general sense of well-being when needed, the god of MTD remains largely uninvolved in the individual's life (at least, if that is the individual's desire). Little or nothing is required of the MTD adherent.

Moralistic Therapeutic Deism rightly discerns that an authentic connection exists between the practice of morality and experiencing personal happiness. However, this sense of morality is defined as simply being “a good person” rather than pursuing particular virtues or displaying faithfulness and perseverance in the face of adversity. Ultimately, MTD is a disposition of convenience that requires no personal integrity, consistency, practice, devotion, or sacrifice from its adherents. It is a vacuous religious sentiment symptomatic of an increasingly self-absorbed society.

MTD is insidious because it can be easily wrapped in the external forms of Christian faith. Indeed, many self-professing Christians (young and old alike) are really, in heart, Moralistic Therapeutic Deists. God is there to provide a sense of comfort, love, and psychological well-being. Yet at the same time, the commandments of God are grossly distorted, suppressed, and trivialized into a single rule: “Be nice.” Sin, the fall of humankind, and our need of

redemption, reconciliation, and salvation becomes unnecessary. Also unneeded are Christ's sacrificial death and resurrection, and our response to His love through costly discipleship.

How prevalent is MTD? Ask any self-professing person of faith what they think about the moral and sexual revolution that is radically transforming our culture. In response to your query, you will find many who are unable to articulate what they believe, lack the courage to stand up publicly for basic Christian truths, and, shockingly, display a profound ignorance of what those truths might even be. Rather than Divine

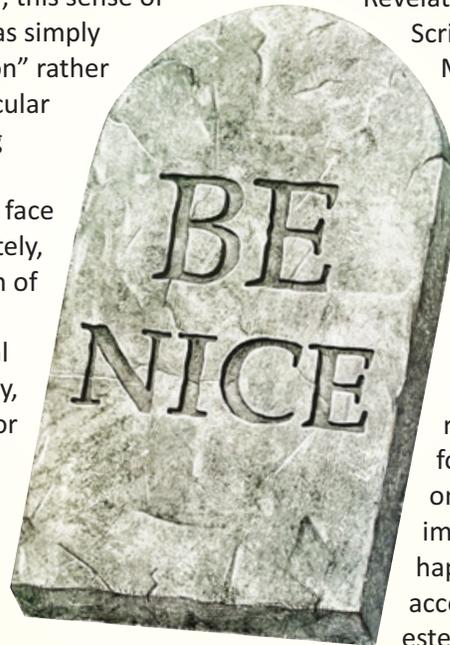
Revelation and Holy

Scripture, adherents of MTD find their source of “truth” solely in the spirit of this age.

Is creation good? Is God good? MTD sidesteps any authentic religious or philosophical reflection, instead focusing exclusively on the individual's immediate feelings of happiness, social acceptance, and self-esteem. It is an emasculated pop-gospel

devoid of any real meaning, power, or hope. If this criticism sounds harsh, it is because MTD is everywhere—it is present in our media, our schools, and our churches—and it threatens to become the baseline of American religious culture.

Next time, we'll address meaning, power, and hope, and provide the real answer to our questions about the **goodness of God and creation.**



CONGRATULATIONS!

Steve Wolf was asked to design a poster for Type Hike's ALPHABEAST series, an alphabet of endangered species. The Library of Congress Popular & Applied Graphic Arts division has officially accepted Type Hike's ALPHABEAST series into their permanent collection. **Congratulations Steve!**



ST. GEORGE SCRAPBOOK

Hosted by the 20/40 Group



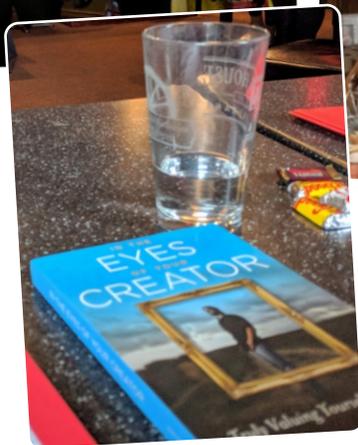
November 12th

St George Pancake Feed



Midwest Orthodox Women's Retreat

We stayed at the Cottage House, a Bed & Breakfast in Kansas



Jr. Youth Group decorated Christmas Tree at Trails & Rails Museum



Jr Youth Group playing board games

ST. GEORGE BULLETIN BOARD

12 Days of Christmas Challenge

The 20/40 Group has challenged the rest of the parish to see who can collect the most pounds of food, for the "Twelve Days of Christmas Challenge." Bring your donations

Dec. 25 through Jan. 6. The "winning" group

will be treated to an evening of food and fellowship hosted by the "losing" group. Shopping carts will be provided again, and placed in the parish hall - **let's fill them up!** Our canned goods will be donated to the Kearney Jubilee Food Pantry, on January 7, 2018.



YOU'RE INVITED

Annual St. George

Soup Luncheon

and

Talent Show



Sunday, Dec. 17, 2017



COME JOIN THE FUN! We hope to see you at the **St. George Talent Show and Soup Luncheon**. This is open to talent of **ALL AGES**. Everyone is welcome to bring a *lenten soup, bread, side, or dessert* to share for the luncheon. Please see Theo, John Wolf or Amanda Denny if you have any questions.



Our 7th Annual Holiday BAKLAVA GIFT-GIVING



Orders ready/PICK-UP

Baklava will be ready for pick-up at St. George, front door, on Saturday, December 16th from 9:00 am - 10:00 am.

Thank You!

*Merry Christmas
To You!*



from the
THE CHRONICLE

MITTEN TREE



St. George will have our annual Mitten Tree again this year. Please consider purchasing items to be donated to the **Kearney Head Start** organization which provides basic essentials for **families in need**. This year, in addition to *hats, gloves, mittens, and scarves*, they are requesting the following items: size 3T and 4T pants for boys and girls, size 3T, 4T and 5T brief cut underwear for boys and girls as well as 5T coats and sweat pants.

THANK YOU! ★ ★ ★

ST. GEORGE *Chronicle*

Volume 3, No. 12, DECEMBER 2017

Monthly Publication of:
St. George Orthodox
Christian Church,
1505 Ave. G
Kearney, Nebraska 68847

A parish of the Antiochian
Orthodox Christian Archdiocese
of North America, Diocese of
Wichita and Mid-America
The Right Rev. BASIL, bishop

The Very Rev. Christopher Morris,
pastor
stgeorgekearney@yahoo.com

Design, Joanie Klein
Contact:
stgeorgechronicle@yahoo.com

Church Office Phone:
(308) 234-6969

Church website:
www.saintgeorgekearney.com

OUR FASTING DISCIPLINE DURING DECEMBER

The Nativity Fast began on Wednesday, November 15th and continues through Sunday, December 24th. This Fast is divided into two periods: The first is **November 15th through December 19th** when the traditional fasting discipline (no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, wine, and olive oil) is observed on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, with katalysis for wine and olive oil (some also permit fish) on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and for fish, wine, and olive oil on Saturdays and Sundays.

The second is the period of the Forefeast, **December 20th through 24th**, when the traditional fasting discipline is observed Monday through Friday, with katalysis for wine and olive oil on Saturday and Sunday.



THE ANSWER
IS C

ST. GEORGE Year-to-date for 2017

\$ FINANCIAL REPORT

As of **NOV. 30 ...** We have received \$66,327 of the \$88,969 we have budgeted for pledges.

As of **NOV. 30 ...** We have received \$19,812 of the \$20,000 we have budgeted for trays and candles.

*Thank you for your continued
stewardship to St. George*

**Eat Less, Talk Less,
Pray More, & Give More**

Gift to
St. George



**My
Donation
Total**
\$ _____
Date _____

*This is your tax receipt,
please keep for your records.
Thank you.*

A GIFT TO ST. GEORGE

As an expression of my gratitude to God for His many blessings in my life, I would like to make a donation to St. George. I would like this donation to be in **Memory of:**

_____ (please print)

or in **Honor of:**

_____ (please print)

Please make my donation (*circle one*) **Anonymous** or **Yes** you may use **my name** in the St. George Chronicle Newsletter (amounts are not published).

My Name _____

Tel # _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Special Instructions: _____



Thank you, and may God bless you for your generosity

"And the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch." Acts 11:26